Department of Administration

DISC Newsletter

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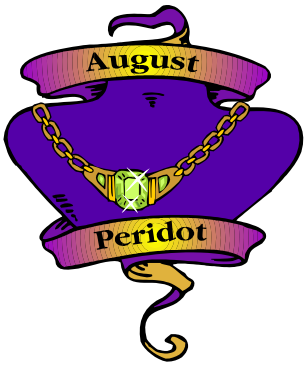

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DISC NEWSLETTER

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An Information Periodical For DISC Employees

Section Articles

We will be presenting articles from sections within DISC each month. For August the article is from KITO.

KITO By Vickie Rogers

The current IT Governance structure was created with Senate Bill 5 in 1998. To support this statute, the KITO was established. KITO has four distinct functional areas: Project Management Office, Geographical Information Systems, Architecture, and Security. All four areas support the three Chief Information Technology Officers and the Chief Information Technology Architect.

Bill Roth has recently accepted the appointment to Chief Information Technology Architect. He has been a state employee for 27 years, 25 of those have been with KDOT and 2 with SRS. In the past he has been a technician, an application developer, Microcomputer support, training coordinator, Internet development manager, application development manager, and strategic planner. He originally started in construction and still likes to play on big toys like dozers and graders. He has been the KDOT Enterprise IT Architect for the past 2 years, developing the KDOT Enterprise Architecture as well as the agency Strategic IT Plan. As the CITA there are many efforts required at certain times like the Kansas Information Technology Architecture and SIM plan, support the ITEC etc. There are also some areas where he hopes to bring some of the approaches that he has used in the past to get business models and Enterprise Architecture models to look at what we do in IT from many different perspectives. His wife is LuAnn Roth, who has worked at KDOT for 30 years. They have 4 kids, 2 at Manhattan and 2 in high school at Wabaunsee in Alma. He enjoys building things and spending some time supporting their local Catholic Church, school board and high school site council. He is looking forward to working with the various people at DISC and to see where he can be of the most value to the State IT efforts.

Larry Kettlewell came to the state in late 1998 and initially worked in DISC addressing the Year 2000 computer date event. Since January of 2000, he has been working as the Chief Information Security Officer and as co-chair of the State's IT Security Council. He has received training through the SANS Institute as an Information Security Officer and will be testing for the Certified Information Systems Security Professional later this fall. When he has spare time, he spends it as a "hockey dad" for his daughter Meghan and backup coach to Meg's mom, Cathy.

Ivan Weichert has five years of State Service, two years was with KDHE GIS Unit, then three years with KITO. Ivan is the Geographic Information Systems Coordinator between state agencies, counties, and municipalities as it relates to state initiatives. He also coordinates the 3-Year IT plan and Web Services for KITO. Ivan graduated with the Class of 1969 from Kansas State College at Pittsburg, in Engineering Design and Drafting. He was a Russian linguist for the Army in the early 70's; and worked in a Construction and Development Career till mid 90's. Ivan then spent five years working for Shawnee County. His wife Karren is CEO for Midland Hospice.

Continued on page 2

KITO continued

Ivan's son Zac is a building contractor, 30-years old and married with three boys. His daughter Jessica, 27, is a Cobol program analyst for Capital Federal, and married with a boy and a girl. Ivan has another son Micah who is 26, and an artist and brewer in Lawrence. His other interests include Habitat for Humanity, Hospice Honey-Do director, and Topeka Housing / Land Use Issues.

The Project Management Office (PMO) provides support to the three CITOs, ITAB and oversight of IT projects. This includes Bid Specifications, Contract Management, Project Management Training, Project Planning, Project Approvals, Project Reporting, and Project Close-Out. All PMO staff members are state certified project managers.

Vickie Rogers is Director of the Project Management Office, and provides oversight to the PMO team and support to the three CITOs and ITAB. She earned a Master's degree in Management from Baker University. She has been an adjunct faculty member in the School of Business at Allen County Community College for five years and is part owner of an entrepreneurial business for the last seven years. She has been in state government for 28 years with the last three in KITO. Previously, she worked in SRS IT for nine years. Vickie has two children, Kyle, 26, is a recent graduate of Baker University and manager at Columbian Bank; and Tonya, 30, is married with a son. The love of Vickie's life is her 5-year old grandson who is more than 'perfect'. She is a runner, likes golf, reading, traveling, and country dancing. Her secret ambition is to play golf as well as her son.

Cathy Nicoletti started her career with the Kansas Department of Transportation for 13 years as a programmer/analyst and Project Manager. She came to DISC two years ago. Cathy is responsible for monitoring state agency execution of information technology projects over $250,000 and Project Management Training. Cathy enjoys spending time with her two teenage daughters (most of the time), soccer, walking/exercising, reading, and traveling.

Mary Grace provides support to agencies and institutions on the implementing, use and awareness of, project management methodology and practices. She assists in the development of Project Management Methodology Standards. Mary also provides advice, consultation and support to agencies and institutions related to preparing IT project plans and budget requests, and project close out. She assists in the development of the Annual IT Management and Budget Plan and is a member of the Web Accessibility Subcommittee.

Carey Brown has been in State Service from December 1971 to August 2004, totaling more than 32 years. He has worked at various state agencies that include: WSU, KBI, DISC, Attorney Gen, and KITO. He has been in DISC a couple of different times. The first time was January 1982 to January 1998, 16 years. Then again from April 2000 to the present, for a total time in DISC of 20 yrs, 4 months. Some of his current duties include IT contracts management for the state, and procurements in general. He received an MPA from KU in 1982, and a BA from WSU in 1969. He has certifications as a State Project Manager and State Law Enforcement Officer. His spouse Jana, is an RN at Stormont-Vail ICU. They have two children: David, 25, engaged to be married the end of September and Elizabeth, 22, married last June. No grandchildren. Some of Carey's outside interests are working in his neighborhood and church organizations.

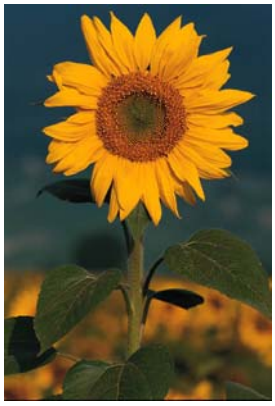
Service Awards

On August 11 we had our first annual DISC Service Awards Ceremony in the Old Supreme Court Room of the Capital Building. We celebrated with those who had attained longevity of 10, 20 and 30 years working for the State of Kansas. Some employees who received recognition were not able to attend, but those who were are pictured below. The DISC employees who received these milestone awards are:

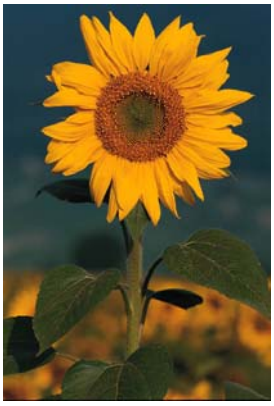
30 Years
Michael Allen (BIS)
Sharon Richardson (BIS)

20 Years
Laura Browne (BAS)
Kent Dugan (BIS)
Linda Flye (BIS)
Robert Michaelis (BIS)
Daniel Rethman (BIS)
Marsha Rogers (BIS)
Sandra Lawrence BOT)

10 Years
Jerry Rissen (BAS)
Jenny Warner (BOCS)
Dwight Tolbert (BOT)



EMPLOYEE INFO



Happy August Birthdays to:

David Bloyd
Mary Winans
Pat Orr
Emily Marsh
Clara Child
John Perkins
Kevin Tralle
Cindy Farmer
Don Blocker
Larry Workman
Kevin Greenfield
Bryce Warner
Gordon Lansford
Rod Blunt

Weddings

Shirley Perry's Daughter, Congratulations Shirley

Deaths

Sara Gigous' Aunt and Aunt-In-Law, a week apart

Sorry for your losses Sara

Department of Administration

Division of Information Systems and Communications (DISC)

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Meeting Our Customer's Needs

New Project

We have just started a new project in DISC called KIRMS, Kansas Integrated Resource Management System. The software will integrate and automate the TSR system, Work Orders, Trouble Tickets and the Billing System. All data in the current systems will be included in the new system, along with new data currently kept manually we would like to see in the system to improve our processes.

The new system utilizes a relational database and a single point of entry process. That means once information is entered, it will not have to be entered again. For instance, a piece of equipment is put on a work order to be installed somewhere. That piece of equipment will be removed from our inventory, added to the agency information where it is installed, and billed to the agency via the internet, automatically.

KIRMS will do much more than we have room to explain in this article. The main point being that the system will streamline our processes and improve accuracy at every point along the way.

KUDOS

BOT
To: Jim Logan and Bryce Warner
Just a note to tell you how pleased I am with the upgrade of our PIX firewall. Jim and Bryce stayed late to do the rollover after hours and even went out to the fail-over site last night to test it. They seemed to have covered all the bases and considered the ramifications of each action. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.
From: Dave Larson, Legislative Computer Services

Just wanted to let you know how pleased I was with our recent firewall upgrade. We appreciate the hard work your folks put into this. In fact, I'd like to let you know that I appreciate DISC's consistent and on-going hard work on behalf of the Legislature.
From: Andy Kraus, Kansas Legislature

BAS
To: Dave Timpany, Morey Sullivan, Pat Orr
Thanks for you and your staff taking the time to assist in our cost cutting. I really do appreciate your assistance and the amount of the reduction. It will be a great help as we continue to look for ways to reduce even more expenses.
From: Ronald Rohrer, KBI

BDAS
To: Paxton Lopeman
Paxton once again proved his programming brilliance and did some amazing work with this SIR that will allow the process to be much more efficient and effective.
From: Nancy Ruoff, A&R

Great Job Everyone!!
Thank you!